



DEDICATION OF STATE OF INDIANA
HISTORICAL MARKER HONORING
THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND
CONTRIBUTIONS OF
SYRIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
OF TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Thursday, April 19, 2018

Awarded by:
State of Indiana Historical
Marker Program,
administered by the Indiana Historical Bureau



Official Sponsor:
St. George
Orthodox Christian Church

Installed and Supported by:
Indiana State University



Ceremony Agenda

Welcome:

Rev. Fr. Paul Fuller, Priest, St. George Orthodox Church

IN Historical Bureau:

Casey Pfeiffer, Historical Marker Program Director

History of the Community:

Robert Hunter, PhD, Professor Emeritus of History, ISU

The Old Church:

Rev. Archdeacon Elias Corey, St. George Orthodox Church

The Early Families:

Col. William Hanna, US Army, Ret.

Children and Grandchildren of the Immigrants:

Ray Azar, Ret. VCSC Dir. of Student Svcs.

4th/5th Generation:

Jim Tanoos, PhD, Purdue University

Unveiling

Hosted by Kal Ellis,
St. George Orthodox Church PC Chairman

Indiana State University President Deborah J. Curtis, PhD

Senator Jon Ford, Indiana Legislature

Hon. Duke A. Bennett, Mayor of Terre Haute

Kal Ellis, Vigo Co. Public Defender's
Office & Ellis Law Offices

Marker Reading
by Rev. Archdeacon Elias Corey

Marker Unveiling
by President Curtis

LITTLE SYRIA ON THE WABASH
In the early 1900s, Arabic-speaking Christian Syrians established a community here, part of a movement of Middle Easterners contributing to the growth of cities in Indiana and U.S. Syrians began their lives in this city as poor pack peddlers and with their savings many bought houses and became grocers. They overcame many obstacles, including prejudice against them.
(Continued on other side)

LITTLE SYRIA ON THE WABASH
(Continued from other side)
In 1927, Syrians established Orthodox Christian church here, which preserved the community's identity and traditions. Their children and grandchildren enlarged the local Syrian contribution as professionals, civic employees, and businessmen. They also enriched the city's cultural vitality through their ethnic festivals and cafes. Many original families are here today.
INSTALLED BY THE INDIANA HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND ST. GEORGE GEORGEY LADY

“LITTLE SYRIA ON THE WABASH”

HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION LUNCHEON

April 19, 2018 @ 1:00 P.M.

Saratoga Restaurant

LUNCHEON SPEAKER SERIES

1. **Anthony “Tony” Tanoos**
(Tanoos Family / Nasser Family)
2. **Patricia “Patti” Maloof**
(Maloof Family / Nasser Family)
3. **Dr. Tony K. Nasser**
(Nasser Family)
4. **Helen Corey**
(Corey Family / Malooley Family)
5. **Michael Thomas Ellis**
(Ellis Family / Shahadey Family / Farah Family)
6. **Sandy Malooley Kassis**
(Kassis Family / Malooley Family)
7. **Dr. Daniel Tanoos**
(Tanoos Family / Nasser Family)
8. **George J. Azar**
(Azar Family / Tanoos Family)
9. **Eric Farver**
(Shahadey Family / Rassie Family)
10. **Salwa Nasser**
(Nasser Family)
11. **Mary Ann Tanoos**
(Tanoos Family / Nasser Family)
12. **Zack Kassis**
(Kassis Family / Corey Family)
13. **Michael C. Ellis**
(Ellis Family / Maloof Family)
14. **Kal Ellis**
(Ellis Family / Corey Family)

